

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 4, which has been canceled. Claim 5 has been amended in the same manner.

Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1-3 and 5-6 will be pending in the application.

Claims 1-3 and 5-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Furuhashi.

Claim 4 has not been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Furuhashi. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 5 to include the recitations of allowable claim 4. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 5 and the claims depending therefrom are not anticipated by Furuhashi. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 4 has been objected to as allegedly being depending upon a rejected base claim.

Applicants have incorporated the recitations of allowable claim 4 into claims 1 and 5 and have canceled claim 4. Therefore, the objection to claim 4 is moot.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Appln. No.: 10/642,193
Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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